

**RE: FOI request (Ref 2058)**

1 message

**Freedom Of Information** <foi@dmu.ac.uk>

17 February 2023 at 12:06

To: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST**

Your request for information has been considered under the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and our response is as follows:

This FOI request relates to the university's Confucius Institute, in particular to the roles at the Confucius Institute for which individuals are recruited in China (if I understand correctly, that is the Chinese language teachers, and the 'Chinese co-director').

- Are these university roles?

In relation to the Chinese language teachers and Directors, they are appointed by the University of Science and Technology, Beijing (USTB), and then join De Montfort University (DMU) as honorary staff members via the form for 'Propose A Special Part-Time Academic Appointment' and they receive a 'DMU Honorary Confirmation Letter' (please see examples attached). They hold Tier 5 visas for temporary workers.

The role of Confucius Institute Co-ordinator is advertised and recruited for in the UK, and employed by DMU directly. The post holder is a permanent resident in the UK. This post administers the partnership from a DMU perspective.

- Are the rights and privileges of university staff attached to these roles?

Confucius Institute staff members are not on the university's payroll and have a contract with the partnership university, USTB, for their terms and conditions, such as annual leave and pay rises for example. When they join DMU, they are given a university ID card which allows them access to some buildings within the university, and to privileges such as borrowing items from the library, during their time here but they are not permitted access to DMU systems.

- Are those who occupy these roles staff of the university?

No, they are the approved special full-time academics invited from the partnership university, USTB.

- Are these individuals employed by the university?

No, they are employed by the partnership university, USTB.

*Please share any documentation that answers these questions or otherwise defines the legal status of these roles*

*and those who occupy them.*

- Please state whether the university has received legal advice about the legal status of these roles and those who occupy them.

**We have no record of having received legal advice about the status of these roles.**

If you have any queries please get in touch with me to discuss them.

Please note that the information provided may contain information that is protected by copyright and there may be restrictions on any further re-use of this, please contact us if you are unsure whether a further use of the information would be lawful. Further details can be found [here](#).

Please note, you have the right to complain to the University about this response. If you wish to request an internal review of this decision, or any other matter connected to your request, please contact me within two months of the date of this response. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response you received.

If you are subsequently not satisfied with the University's response to your complaint you have a right of appeal to the [Information Commissioner's Office](#). Please note the Information Commissioner's Office will expect you to have gone through DMU's review process before the matter is escalated to them.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Name]

Governance and Legal

Trinity House

**DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY**

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Click [here](#) to view the programme of events

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 23 January 2023 11:07  
**To:** Freedom Of Information <[foi@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:foi@dmu.ac.uk)>  
**Subject:** FOI request

This message was sent from outside of DMU. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the source of this email and know the content is safe.

Dear sir/madam,

My name is [REDACTED]. This FOI request relates to the university's Confucius Institute, in particular to the roles at the Confucius Institute for which individuals are recruited in China (if I understand correctly, that is the Chinese language teachers, and the 'Chinese co-director').



- Are these university roles? Are the rights and privileges of university staff attached to these roles? Are those who occupy these roles staff of the university? Are these individuals employed by the university? *Please share any documentation that answers these questions or otherwise defines the legal status of these roles and those who occupy them.*
- Please state whether the university has received legal advice about the legal status of these roles and those who occupy them.

Best,

[REDACTED]

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**2 attachments**

-  2058 [REDACTED] Appointment Form for CI Example.pdf  
358K
-  2058 [REDACTED] Example Introduction Letter\_Redacted.pdf  
163K